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February 1, 2000

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
(U.S. National Phase of PCT/EP97/06268)
Appl. No. 09/308,109; 102(e) Date: June 2, 1999
For: **Methods for Producing the Anaphase Promoting Complex**
Inventors: Nasmyth *et al.*
Our Ref: 0652.1880000/REF/KKV

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Status Inquiry Letter; and
2. Return Postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

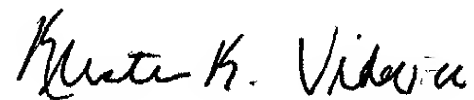
The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
February 1, 2000
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A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Kristin K. Vidovich
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REF/KKV:asl
Enclosures

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